

Remarks

Claims 1-17 are allowed.

To the extent that reasons for allowance suggest or state that certain limitations or combinations not found in the prior art are present in Claims 1-17 whether or not specific language to that effect is found in Claims 1-17, Applicant notes that the “record as a whole” must be considered as a supplement to the reasons for allowance and, to the extent that it is clear and complete, it shall control the interpretation of Claims 1-17.

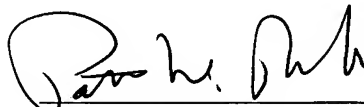
Applicant respectfully disagrees with first, second, third, and fourth statements of reasons for allowance on page 9 of the Notice of Allowability. Specifically, Applicant respectfully submits that none of Claims 1-17 include a recitation, “accurately apply parallel coil sensitivities, to imaging echoes that use navigator phase correction of the imaging echoes without the parallel coil sensitivities being impacted by the navigator echo”, as stated in the first statement of reasons for allowance. Moreover, Applicant respectfully submits that none of Claims 1-17 include a recitation, “the phase correction of the navigator and imaging echoes do not impact the sensitivity matrix, or the sensitivity corrections” as stated in the second statement of reasons for allowance. Further, Applicant respectfully submits that none of Claims 1-17 include accurately applying parallel coil sensitivities, to imaging echoes that use navigator phase correction of the imaging echoes without the parallel coil sensitivities being impacted by the navigator echo. Rather, MRI systems with parallel receivers for phase correction, as recited in Claim 1, include “an exciting and acquisition device configured to excite spins within a subject; a plurality of parallel receiver systems configured to acquire, by applying a reduced field-of-view, imaging echoes generated by the excited spins along with navigator echoes; a first correcting device configured to conduct phase correction on said imaging echoes based on at least one of said navigator echoes; a first image producing device configured to produce an intermediate image based on said phase-corrected imaging echoes from said plurality of parallel receiver systems; a separate generating device configured to generate a sensitivity matrix corresponding to and from said plurality of parallel receiver systems; a second correcting device configured to phase-correct matrix data in said sensitivity

matrix; and a second image producing device configured to produce an output image with a full field-of-view based on said intermediate image and said phase-corrected sensitivity matrix.”.

Moreover, Applicant respectfully submits that the specification does not include, “forming of sensitivity data occur after navigator echoes are acquired, in order to take into account the navigator echoes, with respect to the imaging echoes”, which is stated in the third statement of reasons for allowance, and the specification does not include, “sensitivity data for individual coils, which include a navigator echo, must account for the effect of the navigator echo on the respective sensitivities of the individual coils”, which is stated in the fourth statement of reasons for allowance. Rather, as an example, the specification, on page 2, line 29 – page 3, line 3, includes, “This is because when the imaging echoes are phase-corrected by the navigator echo, the phase originating from the sensitivity of the receiver systems is unnecessarily corrected, resulting in inconsistency with the sensitivity matrix”, and on page 4, lines 2-5, includes, “In the present invention, matrix data in a sensitivity matrix are phase-corrected, and therefore, inconsistency with an imaging echo that is phase-corrected using a navigator echo is eliminated and an image can be correctly produced.” Accordingly, Applicant respectfully disagrees with the first, second, third, and fourth statement of reasons for allowance and respectfully submit that the “record as a whole” must be considered as a supplement to the reasons for allowance.

Favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,



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